

MR. BONNER ON TROTTERS.

WHAT THEY HAVE DONE AND WILL DO.
THE OPINION OF POOL-SELLING—THE LIMIT OF
TROTTING SPEED—MAUD S.

Robert Bonner, sitting in his office in *The Ledger Building*, is surrounded by the pictures of a score of horses that have won renown. Lying around promiscuously are harnesses with histories of fast miles to tell, and when Mr. Bonner writes he dips his pen into an inkstand made of the upper jaw of a horse. The trotting horse is a favorite theme with Mr. Bonner, and when not overwhelmed by business cares, he is always ready to talk upon it. In conversation with a *TRIBUNE* reporter yesterday, he said:

"I think it would be a benefit to the horse interests of this country if pool-selling on races were stopped, and personally I should be pleased to see strict laws in regard to it rigidly enforced. Gambling degrades the sport. The great objection to horse-racing has always been the gambling. A better class would patronize the races if there were no pool-selling and the sport would be elevated. It is not necessary for the success of racing that there should be any such thing. It is a comparatively modern innovation, and it is folly for an association to think that their financial success depends upon their percentage from the pool-box. Take it way back in 1823, when Eclipse and Henry ran their great race over the Union Course. There was no pool-selling then, it had never been heard of, yet 60,000 people went to see the race, and among the number there were such men as Martin Van Buren and John Randolph. At that time our population was not one-quarter what it is now. So if pool-selling really fosters and benefits racing there should be an attendance of 300,000 people at a first-class race under present circumstances. Trot between well-known horses such as Flora Temple and George M. Patchen always drew a large crowd, and the chances are that both will be accommodated before the season is out."

The only representative that the *Hartford River* will have this year is Regatta, a Regatta is Regatta, of the Metropolitans, who, now that Mumford has been dropped from amateur races, thinks that has a good chance to bring home a prize.

The Atlantic Club is expected to have its club regatta.

The Atlantic Club regatta will take place on June 17. The New-York Athletic Club follows on the 27th. On July 4 the inter-collegiate races will be run at LaGuardia Park, and the *Pasadena* Club will have its regatta on the 10th.

Long Island's Union Course holds its annual regatta on June 25.

Manhattan Club runs its annual regatta on June 25.

Manhattan Horsemen's Club runs its annual regatta on June 25.

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